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29 June 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Discussion With the Secretary of Commerce Concerning
NIS Work by the Bureau of the Census

1. Mr. Helms and Mr. Brammell called on Secretary of Commerce John Connor and the Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs, William Shaw, on Friday, 24 June at 0900 to obtain approval for the Bureau of the Census to undertake the sociological work on the NIS now being done by HEW.

2. Mr. Helms briefly described the character of the NIS as an all-Government publication, gave examples of its use in crisis situations, and explored the need for it in supporting a variety of Government activities. He then explained to Secretary Connor that Secretary Gardner (HEW) found it necessary to discontinue support of the NIS Program because of pending legislation before Congress in which an HEW-CIA relationship might adversely affect the progress of several bills. Mr. Helms then explained that we had been discussing with officials of the Bureau of the Census their assumption of this additional responsibility for the sociological sections, and that they had seemed favorably inclined to undertake the work. He asked for Mr. Connor's support and help in this matter and Mr. Connor responded that he and Mr. Shaw had been discussing the matter and found no problems. Mr. Connor agreed that Census would undertake the NIS work beginning 1 July 1966.

((signed))
JAMES A. BRAMMELL

JAMES A. BRAMMELL
Director of Basic Intelligence

D/OBI:JABrammell:jmc/2845(29 June 1966)

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